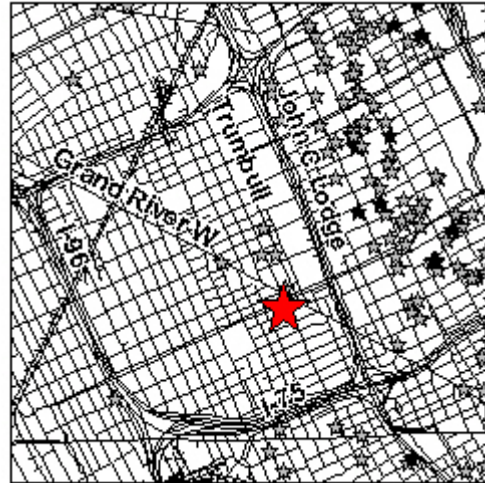


Trinity Episcopal Church

1519 Martin Luther King Jr.

Local		
State	✓	8/3/79
State Marker		
National	✓	5/22/80



Trinity Episcopal Church
Photo courtesy of michmarkers.com

Historic overview:

Trinity Episcopal Church was founded in 1878 as Epiphany Reformed Episcopal Church. It represented Anglicanism that did not give allegiance to the Episcopal bishop of the diocese. Epiphany purchased property and built a small frame church that was first used in 1880. In 1889, the congregation changed its name to Trinity, and the current church was built by 1893.

James Scripps, founder of the Detroit News and congregation member since 1879, influenced the architecture of the new church. He had traveled in England and became interested in English Medieval architecture. The church's architects, Mason & Rice, were also responsible for a huge addition added to Scripps home, located across from the church. Along with Scripps, they introduced a new Tudor-inspired domestic architecture to Detroit at the Scripps house, and a new form of Gothic architecture at Trinity.

During the first half of the 20th century, a style developed which is often called Neo-Gothic, to differentiate it from the Gothic Revival of the 19th century. At Trinity, we have the earliest example in Detroit of this new consciousness in Gothic design. The first acknowledged example of Neo-Gothic in the U.S. was a chapel in New Hampshire, completed about 1895, after Trinity. This places Trinity at the forefront of the new movement.

In 1896 the congregation voted to unite with the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan. Through the early 20th century, the parish prospered, and in 1925 the cornerstone was laid for the Wilson Parish Hall, named for Reverend Wilson, rector of the church in 1903. Today the congregation is smaller, but the church remains in good repair.

